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**AN AWFUL DEATH.**

[Continued from First Page.]

are a number of lumber yards and several huge oil tanks, and the captain was warned that to attempt to land at this point would endanger the property and perhaps further imperil the hundreds of people, who had already been frightened into a state of almost uncontrollable excitement.

Changing the big steamer's course slightly, he headed for North Brother Island, half a mile away. By this time the flames were rushing by leaps and bounds from the forward part of the ship aft.

The great open decks, built for excursionists, with little obstruction from bow to stern, offered a clear sweep for the fire. As the Slocum dashed forward, the flames caught stanchion and cabin woodwork, eating and tearing their way across the vessel.

The excursionists, but a few moments before in the full enjoyment of an ideal summer's day on Long Island Sound, were driven to the after part of the steamer to escape the heat, flames and smoke that were constantly increasing. Policemen and deck hands aboard the boat struggled hard to quiet the panic, but their efforts were in vain. The wild disorder increased as frantic mothers sought their children, who had been at play about the decks.

**WOMEN AND CHILDREN JUMP.**

The steamer's whistle was blowing for assistance, and tugs and other near by craft answered to the call. Before any of the boats could reach the burning steamer, however, the frantic women and children began to jump overboard. The current was strong and there are many whirlpools in the channel. The boats that always abound in the vicinity picked many persons from the water, but these were only a small number of those that were seen struggling in the swift current.

On the Slocum the first sweep of the flames cut off escape from the hurricane deck, where a great many women and children were crowded together, and soon burned away the lightwood of the uprights, which came down with a crash on those below. It is thought that most of those on the hurricane deck were burned.

As the fire increased, the struggle to gain a point of vantage at the stern became frightful. Women and children crowded against the after rail until it gave way, and hundreds were pushed off into the river. After this there was a steady stream of persons who jumped or were thrown into the water.

By this time the shrieking whistle of the Slocum had attracted the attention of river craft for a considerable distance around, and tugs and other small boats were rushing to the assistance of the burning steamer.

These small boats rescued all those in the water whom they could reach, but many persons struggled and sank before any help could reach them. In the wake of the Slocum as she hurried up stream was a row of little black spots, marking the heads and bodies of those who had sought to escape the roaring furnace on the ship by throwing themselves overboard.

Few of those saved by the small boats had on life preservers. At no time during the progress of the fire was there any opportunity either to lower the life boats or get the life preservers out from under the seats. This perhaps gives an idea of the rapidity with which the flames swept the decks. It was an experience harrowing and terrible, and that any escaped alive seems wonderful.

**HURRICANE DECK FALLS.**

Through all the wild panic, during all that inferno, with fire and smoke surrounding them, the officers and men of the doomed boat remained at their posts, but they were powerless to avert the catastrophe. The Slocum got within fifty feet of the northwest point of North Brother Island and there stopped in the shallow water. It was just before she beached that the hurricane deck, the support of which had burned away, fell with its load of women and children, adding to the panic and horror of those on the deck below.

Very soon after parts of the second and third decks also caved in. But before this happened the tug Walter Tracy had come alongside the burning steamer and been lashed to it. Many of the passengers were taken off by the crew of the Tracy, which remained alongside the steamer until the tug's pilot house caught on fire.

The point where the Slocum beached was off the scarlet fever ward on North Brother Island. The patients, who had been out on the porches and lawns watching the approach of the burning steamer, were ordered in doors, and the physicians on the island hastened to the assistance of those who were being brought ashore through the shallow water.

**A STRONG HEART.**

Is assured by perfect digestion. Indigestion swells the stomach and puffs it up against the heart. This causes shortness of breath, palpitation of the heart and general weakness. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure cures indigestion, relieves the stomach, takes the strain off the heart and restores it to a full performance of its functions naturally. Kodol increases the strength by enabling the stomach and digestive organs to digest, assimilate and appropriate to the blood and tissues, all of the food nutriment. Tones the stomach and digestive organs. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

low water. Many of those who leaped from the Slocum were carried away by the current, even after she was beached, and were drowned.

The scene on North Brother Island as described by the rescuers was a pitiful one. Body after body was washed ashore or brought in by boats and added to the long row on the beach. Fifty-three persons died there while doctors were attending them.

**PITIFUL SCENES.**

As the bodies of the living and the dead were taken out of the water, those alive were taken to the hospital on the island or sent across the river to hospitals in Manhattan. Here ambulances from almost all the hospitals in Greater New York and every other sort of conveyance which could be found were put into service. For hours the bodies of the burned and the drowned drifted ashore on the island and between One Hundred and Thirty-first and One Hundred and Thirty-eighth streets in Manhattan. Some came ashore still alive. Many of them died, while others will recover. The scenes on the beach of North Brother Island were pitiable in the extreme, as the living and the dead were brought in. The row of bodies stretched along the beach, and hysterical women and frantic men went along looking at one after another, searching for children and friends. Women with disfigured faces, their clothes partially stripped from them, were carried to the improvised emergency hospital crying for children who had been torn from them in the mad rush when the boat took fire.

Meanwhile the Slocum burned to the water's edge. At 12:25 o'clock, two hours and twenty-five minutes after the fire was first discovered, she sank. It is estimated that there were nearly 100 charred bodies on her decks. Just after the steamer sank, the water near by was black with bodies. The tug Fidelity succeeded in picking up 88 charred corpses in Hunt's Cove, off Baker's Island, and carried them into the sound. None of these bodies, it is thought, can ever be identified.

Worst of all experiences. Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newsom, Decatur, Ala. "For three years," she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was miraculous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered. For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists.

Nothing is further than the earth from heaven; nothing is nearer to heaven than the earth.—Hare.

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Fresh testimony in great quantity is constantly coming in, declaring Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds to be unequalled. A recent expression from T. J. McFarland, Bentonville, Va., serves as example. He writes: "I had Bronchitis for three years and doctored all the time without being benefited. Then I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and a few bottles wholly cured me." Equally effective in curing all Lung and Throat trouble, Consumption, Pneumonia and Grip. Guaranteed by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists. Trial bottles free, regular sizes 50c and \$1.00.

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